

**AGENDA FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2003
Immediately Following Director's Meeting
CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

I. MINUTES

- *1. Minutes of "Noon" Council Members' Meeting for December 16, 2002.
- 2. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Public Works & Utilities Review of Water and Wastewater Facilities Study - December 2, 2002.
- 3. Minutes of Director's Meeting for December 16, 2002.

II. COUNCIL REPORTS ON BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND CONFERENCES

- *1. Joint C-SIP Advisory/Steering Committee Meeting (McRoy/Seng)
- *2. Floodplain Task Force Meeting (Seng)
- *3. Homeless Coalition Meeting (Werner)
- **4. Star City Holiday Festival Board Meeting (McRoy) — **NO DECEMBER MEETING**

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - NONE

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - NONE

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

- 1. Leadership Lincoln - "Collaboration" - (Immediately Following the HSF Meeting)- on Tuesday, January 28, 2003 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road - \$20.00 Members of Human Services Federation or Leadership Lincoln OR \$30.00 Non-members – Mail in or RSVP to Jean Dier at 441-4661. (See Invitation)
- 2. Families First and Foremost (F3) is Introducing our Education and Support Series - This Series is designed for parents and caregivers who have children with mental health and behavior issues. On Thursday, January 23rd from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at F3, 315 South 9th Street, Suite 200 - A family dinner will be served and childcare will be provided. Find support for yourself or become a resource for someone else. Please RSVP to Keri at 441-3804. (See Invitation)

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

- *1. Discussion regarding the Security Study Committee Membership. (Requested by Jonathan Cook)
- *2. Discussion regarding the Cable Company Pre-Council Meeting - **Now scheduled for January 6th.**
- 3. Discussion regarding Common Meeting Agenda items.
- 4. Discussion regarding Agenda items for Joint LPS Meeting scheduled for February 10th.

VII. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

***HELD OVER FROM DECEMBER 23, 2002.**

****HELD OVER FROM DECEMBER 30, 2002.**

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2003
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

Council Members Present: Jonathan Cook, Chair; Jon Camp, Vice Chair; Glenn Friendt, Annette McRoy, Coleen Seng, Ken Svoboda, Terry Werner.

Others Present: Mark Bowen, Ann Harrell, Corrie Kielty, Mayor's Office; Dana Roper, City Attorney; Lynn Johnson, Parks & Recreation Director; Joan Ray, Council Secretary; Darrell Podany, Aide to Council Members Camp, Friendt and Svoboda; Nate Jenkins, Lincoln *Journal Star* representative.

I. MINUTES

- *1. Minutes of "Noon" Council Members' Meeting for December 16, 2002.
- 2. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Public Works & Utilities Review of Water and Wastewater Facilities Study - December 2, 2002.
- 3. Minutes of Director's Meeting for December 16, 2002.

Chair Jonathan Cook requested a motion to approve the above-listed minutes. Ken Svoboda moved approval of the minutes, as presented. The motion was seconded by Coleen Seng and the minutes were approved as presented by unanimous consensus.

II. COUNCIL REPORTS ON BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND CONFERENCES -

*1. JOINT C-SIP ADVISORY/STEERING COMMITTEE (McRoy/Seng) Ms. Seng reported that the meeting, after much scheduling and re-scheduling, was held the day before the Council's Budget Retreat. The group is comprised of Foundation Representatives, United Way, JBC and representatives of the various agencies. The group's purpose is to form a new 501C-3 Group. There will be a new name attached to it, but it comes out of the evaluation process that has been done. They have tried to establish a new structure. She noted that the meeting had been productive, stating that they had tried to get it in before Kathy Campbell left the County Board.

Ms. Seng reported that Ms. Campbell, the United Way folks and she had agreed that Mr. Seacrest should be paid something for his role as facilitator. Mr. Seacrest had been reluctant to submit a bill for his services, even though he had put in a lot of time on this project, meeting with many of those involved several times. It was agreed, though, to divide a fee payment of \$6,000 - \$7000.00 among the City, County, United Way and perhaps one or two agencies

*2. FLOODPLAIN TASK FORCE (Seng) Ms. Seng noted that the Task Force was meeting every two weeks now. They had been unhappy with what had come back from the consultants, because they thought there should be a difference between brand new development and internal and/or re-development. What recommendation would be made would come through the Planning Department, Planning Commission and back to City Council.

Ms. Seng noted that there were new materials to review for the meeting being held tomorrow and there will be meeting every two weeks; and, hopefully, by the end of February, the recommendations will be ready to forward on to the appropriate governmental bodies.

*3. HOMELESS COALITION (Werner) No Report

**4. STAR CITY HOLIDAY FESTIVAL BOARD (McRoy) — NO DECEMBER MEETING Ms. McRoy noted that the parade went off very well.

OTHER MEETINGS: - Mr. Friendt thanked Ms. Seng for her lovely and fantastic Holiday Party. Everyone agreed that it had been delightful.

Mr. Cook requested Lynn Johnson, Parks & Recreation Director, to come forward for two issues of discussion. Mr. Johnson presented a map on an area that had been discussed earlier at the Directors' Meeting. He reviewed the map, which showed the areas of right-of-way being vacated and an easement being released. The map also showed the land in the area that the City already owns as well as the land being traded for. He noted that the difference in value between the two is approximately \$250.00, as the properties were fairly close in value.

The other issue which Mr. Johnson wished to discuss was the Master Plan for the renovation and expansion of the Sunken Gardens. He explained that the intent for that project was that most of the funds would be generated through a fund raising campaign. It's about a 1.45 to 1.50 million dollar project. He reported that the summer had been spent meeting with groups in the Sunken Gardens, meeting with individuals, trying to get a sense of whether this is a good time to initiate a campaign. He noted that they were very encouraged by those meetings and, having spoken with the Mayor, intend to start that fund raising campaign probably in the Spring with the planting of the Gardens.

Mr. Johnson explained that the Parks and Recreation Foundation will be responsible for managing that campaign. There will be a contract between Susan Rosenberg and the Foundation to actually manage the full campaign. It's different and separate from the "Lincoln Cares" program. Some of the funds from "Lincoln Cares" will go towards the campaign, but it's a different effort. We have about \$300,000 identified or committed at this point towards that project.

He noted that there is one issue that they definitely wanted to get worked through. The Master Plan has been shared with the Near Southside Neighborhood Association. There are three houses along 26th Street that the Master Plan shows as being acquired by the City. The Near South Board at that time didn't have any concerns about it, but since then, it has been learned that they do want to talk further about it. There will be a meeting with the Near South Board next Monday night to talk about the process, and to get the neighborhood involved in looking at the property acquisition with a focus on the parking issues. That will be the primary use of the land being acquired...to develop additional parking on site in order to get some of the parking out of the neighborhood and also deal with the "bus drop" groups.

We just wanted to let Council know that we're in the process of working with the Foundation and Susan Rosenberg to get this fund raising campaign organized. It will probably be announced the first part of May.

Council questioned Mr. Johnson regarding details of the project and he answered questions concerning several issues, including the number of parking spots, which would be tripled with the acquisition; and providing a bus loop for dropping tour groups; the total cost for the three homes - which would be approx. \$400,000. Mr. Johnson explained that if the 4-plex property becomes a concern for the neighborhood there is a possibility in the plan to incorporate it into the parking plan & have it eventually become a gift shop, or museum facility. All three of the properties are of a quality that they might want to be saved.

Council Members asked other questions concerning Parks & Rec issues which could have been addressed at the Directors' Meeting or scheduled for pre-council meetings which were unrelated to these issues. Mr. Johnson graciously took the time to respond to the inquires.

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - None, though Council requested that the lists with resumes of upcoming nominees be continued, noting that they had not received such a listing for some time. It was agreed that distribution of these lists would be resumed for Council.

Council Members were also directed to send any names they might want to place for nomination consideration to Joyce Quinn who would be handling the applications.

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - Mr. Bowen noted that there were two items - one on the Council's Weekly Agenda -the Budget Follow-up Briefing on Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. He also handed out information that they had requested regarding Building Permits in the City [Copy available in Council Office]

He asked if there was anything else the Budget Office would need to prepare for the Budget Follow-up Briefing? He asked if there would be any reason to have the Directors at this meeting? The Council felt there was no other information, except, perhaps, what might be causing Omaha's falling sales tax receipts and whether or not Lincoln is in the same situation/s that is/are precipitating this fall. Mr. Werner indicated that he would also like to have a schedule of the budget process meetings. Mr. Bowen indicated that he would check with the Omaha Finance Department on the sales tax receipt information and he would relay Mr. Werner's request to the Lincoln City Budget Office.

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Noted Without Significant Comment

VI. MISCELLANEOUS -

*1. Discussion regarding the Security Study Committee Membership. (Requested by Jonathan Cook) Discussion resulted in the determination that Council would be given an update next Wednesday. Several names were posed for additional consideration, including Ben Goble, Jeff Fortenberry, Curt Donaldson, Roger Lemke (who, it was learned, will be appointing a member to the Committee), as well as Don Marti, Stan Hang and Doug Ahlberg. It was determined that Ms. McRoy and Mr. Svoboda would be the City Council Members assigned to the Committee.

*2. Discussion regarding the Cable Company Pre-Council Meeting - **Now scheduled for January 6th**. Mr. Cook explained that Steve Huggenberger of the City Attorney's Office would offer an informational update on the franchise negotiations and what is being worked on in that regard within a month or so.

3. Discussion regarding Common Meeting Agenda items. - None Offered. Mr. Svoboda did agree to serve if elected as Chair of the Common for the 2003 session.

4. Discussion regarding Agenda items for Joint LPS Meeting scheduled for February 10th. Ms. Harrell suggested that the consultant's Facilities Planning Efforts be included for discussion. She explained that that would include not only renovations and upgrades to existing buildings, but also strategic locations for future construction. LPS is having open houses in several locations in the next couple of weeks, so this would be a timely topic for discussion.

At Mr. Camp's request, Mr. Cook brought forward the issue of a Pre-Council on the Fire Dept. Billing Audit. After discussion, it was determined that the Finance Department audit would be completed at the end of January and it was agreed that February 3rd or 10th (for approximately one hour) would be the best time for a pre-council on the issue.

Council Members' reached a consensus that in the future it would be beneficial and in the best interest of the community if Council Members were apprized of upcoming issues prior to public release of the information [which seems -at the least- an appropriate courtesy]. The procedural process of this specific audit were also briefly discussed with the notation that the audit needed to have been better discussed and designed.

VII. COUNCIL MEMBERS -

JON CAMP - No Further Comments

JONATHAN COOK - Mr. Cook reviewed the changes that would be implemented in the Council's Opening Remarks for future Formal Council Meetings. The hearing enhancement equipment in the Chamber will be placed at the rear of the Chambers during each meeting. A brief discussion revealed that the majority of Council Members opposed the elimination of video & audio equipment in presentations to the Council during public hearings. It was agreed that the Chair should make the final decision on whether or not to allow additional time for speakers during public hearing.

Mr. Cook reported that the Journal Star representative had misquoted him in an article and he wanted to right the comment in a formal setting and chose the "Noon" minutes as his venue. The *Journal Star* quote stated that Cook said "If they're just saying dumb things, I can set through that" [then the article added], 'but he's not open to the abuse'. Mr. Cook said that is NOT what he said: His quote was "if they want to come up and say that WE'RE just doing dumb things, I think they can do that". Mr. Cook felt there is a difference between a remark about the public telling us we're being dumb, and "them saying dumb things." Mr. Cook feared that the public might think he was insulting them and he wanted to correct the record formally. Council suggested that Mr. Cook request that a correction be printed in the newspaper. The direct quote was given to *Journal Star* representative, Nate Jenkins, with the information that Council believed a correction would be appropriate.

GLENN FRIENDT - Mr. Friendt asked where the City was on the issue on Solid Waste fee changes? Mr. Bowen answered that the last he knew the individual Council Members would be contacted with an update on that from Mr. Bill Austin - on converting the current fee structure into an occupation tax structure. Mr. Friendt asked if the legislation was coming from efforts by the haulers or through Public Works channels. Mr. Bowen stated that all parties had been involved in the discussions. There is a divided opinion about it between the industry folks and the City. Mr. Cook observed that the local haulers tended to support the changes. Mr. Bowen agreed with that observation.

ANNETTE McROY - No Further Comments

COLEEN SENG - No Further Comments

KEN SVOBODA - No Further Comments

TERRY WERNER - No Further Comments

MARK BOWEN - No Further Comments

ANN HARRELL - No Further Comments

CORRIE KIELTY - No Further Comments

DANA ROPER - Mr. Roper made brief remarks regarding the assessment that the Council would be considering as it sat as the Board of Equalization this afternoon prior to the Formal Council Meeting. Mr. Roper explained that the district was validly created....we could create the district....but the resolution ordering it constructed was invalid. Therefore, we cannot do anything....even though, as Mr. Cook pointed out, the work was already done. Mr. Roper stated that he understood that and the City would be paying for the work. His recommendation was to either go back and repeal the resolution ordering the construction, or just move on and assess the district at zero dollars. It was agreed that the zero assessment would be the best and most expedient course to take.

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately 1:05 p.m.

**HELD OVER FROM DECEMBER 23, 2002.*

***HELD OVER FROM DECEMBER 30, 2002.*

cm010603/jvr